

Grant County Mines.

Silver City Enterprise.

New and important mining discoveries are being made every day in Grant county. The latest is reported from a point on the Santa Rita range, a few miles northeast of Santa Rita, on the ridge between Georgetown and the former named camp. The discovery was made by Mr. Myers of the T box ranch. The ore gave returns of nine tenths of an ounce (\$18) gold and 40 ounces silver per ton.

Cook's camp, the leading lead producer of New Mexico and of the south west, is today more prosperous than ever before in its history. The developments upon new properties are very encouraging and indicate beyond doubt the addition of several large producing mines in the near future.

On the Othello and Desdemona mines the Kansas City Smelting and Refining Company of El Paso, has a force of eighty miners employed. Fifty tons of ore is the regular daily shipment.

On the Summit group of mines, better known as the Teel and Poe property, Jo Hitchins has a lease and is making regular shipments. This was formerly one of the bonanza mines of the camp and will undoubtedly be so again as the indications are very promising for the early development of a large ore body.

Wm. Kief is exploring the Clara K. through two shafts which have reached depths of 90 to 120 feet respectively. At the bottom of the 90 feet shaft two drifts have been run distances of 60 and 80 feet with large stringers of ore intersected at every foot of the distance.

On the Bryan Mr. Kief has a shaft 150 feet in depth from which a drift has been run 100 feet but has not yet encountered the mineralized zone of limestone which it is expected will soon be cut on its dip toward the drift.

Spain's Naval Stations.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

The Canary Islands, according to the most reliable statements that can be obtained, for the pending conflict, have been equipped by Spain with formidable defenses. The Cape Verde islands will become the centre of her naval strength, and in view of this to both points much interest is attached for the American people.

The Canary islands lie in the North Atlantic ocean and have been in the possession of Spain since 1483. The several principal islands in the group are Tenerife, Grand Canary, Palma, Lanzarote, Fuerteventura, Gomero and Hierro, these seven islands covering an area of about 4,000 square miles. Fuerteventura lies nearest to the African coast, its distance therefrom being between fifty and sixty miles. Santa Cruz de Santiago, on the south coast of Tenerife, is the residence of the Governor-General of the Canaries, Tenerife being the largest island of the group. Grain, potatoes, figs, bananas, grapes, dates and oranges are among the many products of the islands, and large quantities of wine and raw silk are exported. The inhabitants are slightly darker than the people of Spain, and the women are not striking in respect of beauty.

The Cape Verde islands also lie off the coast of Africa, but a greater distance from it, the nearest of the group, Boa Vista, being 200 miles from the mainland. The islands belong to Portugal, and are under the command of the Governor-in-Chief, appointed by the crown. The group consists of ten islands, of which St. Vincent is now most frequently mentioned. The chief occupation of the islanders is cattle-raising. The total area of the islands is 1,240 square miles. They were discovered in 1441, and now have a population of about 100,000.

On the Canaries, the forts at Las Palmas are four in number of which Castillo San Francisco, 295 years old, is the most formidable, having been repaired and remodeled last year under

the supervision of the German engineers. It contains five 15-ton guns of the newest pattern, and has earthworks constructed on the latest principles. The fort, according to the opinion of Spanish engineers, is a sufficient defense for the port, but there is also Castillo de la Luz, which has been repaired and rearmament with the older guns from Castillo San Francisco. When the last Union Line steamer touched at Las Palmas repairs were being also pushed at Castillo San Fernando and four new 10-ton guns were being mounted. Castillo de Mata is to be neglected.

On the Wing.

To the Editor of the Optic.

HOME OF JUAN HINOJOS, April 27th, 1898.—This morning at the early hour of seven, after an excellent breakfast cooked at the home of Henry Leese, at El Bado Juan Pais, two gay young ducks in fine spirits pulled out on the road for Puerto de Luna and the ranch of A. G. Mills. Everything seemed propitious. The Pecos was crossed comfortably and without any feeling of danger at the El Bado crossing and over the mesa and along the Agua Negra, we drove at a ten mile gait, locating sheep ranches at the most favorable points and discussing the merits of the country, until we reached the Pecos at Puerto de Luna.

Along the Agua Negra were numerous bands of sheep and almost a multitude of little lambs. At the Pecos crossing near Juan Hinojos we paused long enough to water the horses before attempting to cross, fearing the treacherous quick sands. We investigated the crossing, and as we saw fresh wagon tracks, determined it was safe, and stimulated somewhat at the prospect of a good dinner with the Goldenberg boys and Jim Abercrombie, and remembering also that Capt. Jenks and Dick Degraftenreid were on the other side, without any misgivings we plunged into the river which really seemed a very quiet and safe stream, the first plunge brought the water into the wagon bed and the second brought the horses up to their bellies in the quick sand and then they began to founder. In this way we got about one fourth across, the horses sinking deeper and deeper, plunging and struggling, and finally sticking fast up to the hips.

Doc had the presence of mind of an old soldier and although his adjectives were of a very expressive kind and his voice attained a high key, he was quite equal to the emergency. I had the impression in going in that we should hold well to our right, and when the horses began to plunge and turn up the river to the left my suggestion was, "pull to the right." I imagine my exclamation, "Doc, pull 'em to the right," "pull to the right," must have been vehement and possibly imperious, for I remember Doc's exclamation, "How the d—d can I get them to the right, the horses will drown." At that moment visions of two dead horses, and two first-class professional cadavers lying in the sun, pulled out of the river, lower down flashed over my mind, and a kind of chilly sensation passed through. Then Doc shot over the dashboard, unhooked the dogs, loosened the horses from the wagon and Molly made a plunge for terra firma, then Doc and Dandy and Molly became mixed all up together, the horses heading for the shore and Doc holding on to the lines, through the deeper water. They reached the shore in safety leaving me in the wagon with the water rushing through the bed in the middle of the river. The chills became more frequent and much colder.

I happened to have a gun in my pocket and I fired six rapid and distinct signals of distress. A Mexican boy answered the signal but in the excitement of the moment I forgot my Spanish and could only yell, "Rio mucha malo. Mexicano pronto," and Doctor chimed, "Yes, devilish pronto," which had the effect of bringing two stalwart

Mexican amigos to the rescue. Then I took the ropes with the iron picket pin fastened to one end and Doc waded in and I threw the safety line to him. Soon one end was fastened to the wagon and the other end was held on shore and we began to unload, the Mexican friend holding to the line and carrying out our goods, the current being very swift. After lighting the load somewhat, ropes were tied to the rear end and with the valuable help of our amigos we got the wagon ashore; the catastrophe is over.

No tires lost, no goods gone, but two wet ducks, wearing the pantaloons of our amigo Juan. We have just been served with an excellent dinner by our host, thanks to his accomplished daughter, and in twenty minutes will be on the road to Mills' ranch, twenty miles below. Should we find a gallon or so of water in an arroyo, on the road we will swim the horses across. Adios. E. V. L.

FINANCIAL STRENGTH.

In 1890 the wealth of the United States was computed at \$65,037,091,197 and the debt per capita was \$32.37. At the same time the wealth of Great Britain was \$43,600,000,000 and her debt per capita was \$87.79. The wealth of Spain was \$7,965,000,000 and her debt per capita was \$71.27. At the same time two thirds of the people of old Spain can neither read nor write nor fight. It will thus be seen that the wealth of this country was nearly nine times that of Spain in 1890; while the debt of Spain per capita, or on each individual in the nation—man, woman and child—was two and one-fifth times that of the United States. Not a good showing for our friend, the enemy.

A PRETTY ILLUSTRATION.

A good story comes from Vancouver, British Columbia, as follows: Fourth Officer Hepburn of the steamer Empress of Japan tells of a big street fight in Hong Kong. Just before the steamer sailed a row occurred in a saloon between Russian and English sailors. A squad of Russian sailors picked up all the German and French sailors on land, held a council of war, and hostilities were declared against the Anglo-Saxon race. In thirty minutes 400 German, French and Russian sailors were lined three deep along Queen street, which is twenty-five feet wide, for 100 yards, from Joss temple to the water's edge, and defied the Yackees and Johnny Bulls to break their ranks, jeering them for cowards.

The Yankees and Britishers, 150 strong, not half the number of the enemy, advanced to the charge, shoulder to shoulder, some crying "Hail Columbia" and some "God Save the Queen." They drove like a mighty wedge through the mass of foreigners.

The allied German, French and Russian forces were soon surrounded, and, in the words of an eye-witness, "the small squad of Anglo-Saxons knocked seven bells out of them." The police were powerless to interfere. The officers hurried to the shore in launches, but the hostilities did not cease till the allied forces cried for quarter.

This shows on a small scale what England and the United States could do, combined in an offensive and defensive alliance.

Dr. S. Fillmore Bennett, the author of "The Sweet By and By," is growing blind, but hopes soon to complete a volume of verse on which he is now at work.

President Crespo, of Venezuela, who was killed by the insurgents, was of Indian descent.

Secretary Long's daughter, who is a medical student in Baltimore, denies that she is going to the front as a nurse.

It is said that Crozier, who invented the disappearing gun carriage, got his idea from a Kansas prairie dog jumping into its hole.

There are in Galicia 600,000 children who cannot get any schooling. As many as 1173 new schoolhouses are called for, the cost of which is estimated at 4,622,000 florins.

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